Loyola
OF MONTREAL

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DEFENSE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

"Probably the best 7 minutes of defense I've seen since I've been here. And if we can just put it together for a whole ball game this team will be hard to beat," stated Coach Daigneault after his Loyola College Basketball Warriors stunned the Plattsburgh State Cardinals Saturday. "They're a team that has rated with the top ten small college squads in the state."

With eight minutes remaining, Loyola found themselves down by 10. Daigneault ordered the press. And it was most effective. The Warriors crippled their opponents for the next two minutes, hustling, stealing the ball, outjumping them and with consistent shooting, doing the things that are expected from a good team, Loyola easily overcame the deficit and walked off with a well deserved victory. Non-starters Jim Fahey and Greg Gill continue to improve with their aggressive style of play showing that the Warriors bench has improved considerably since October.

The game was played in Malone, New York as a highlight to the town's winter carnival. The victory was a welcoming home present for Daigneault, who grew up there.

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Tonight, the Warriors hope for much the same as they play in their own Carnival game against cross-town rivals the McGill Redmen. The Redmen are having their ups and downs this year. Last weekend they surprised the previously unbeaten Queen's 97-96 but then came right back and lost to the cellar dwellers of the Ottawa-St. Lawrence league, Bishops, by 13 points. But McGill should be up for this contest as they have been in the last two meetings this year, both of which Loyola had a tough time winning.

Another big game is expected from co-captains Tom Profenno and Earl Lewis, who have carried much of the load this year for Loyola. Against Plattsburgh they scored 19 and 17 points respectively.

John McAuliffe has made his return felt in the Warriors lineup. He wants to prove to a lot of people he can still play ball and will be doing just that for the remaining three weeks as the Warriors prepare for the Canadian Championships.

Thus tonight's game boils down to a real must for Daigneault's team if they are to maintain that all-important momentum. Yet, as Loyola mentor says "Defence is going to spell the difference from now on". It will tell whether or not Loyola will keep the carnival silver-ware for the fourth consecutive year.

It will be remembered that last year's game was a complete sell-out and the same is anticipated for tonight's contest. Tip-off time is slated for 6:30 p.m. followed by the Loyola- U de M hockey game. Both games will count in Coup de Quebec standings. Tickets are on a first come first serve basis.